

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A self-invertible inverse latex composition comprising:

an oil phase[[,]] with a constituent solvent being fatty acid esters;

an aqueous phase[[,]];

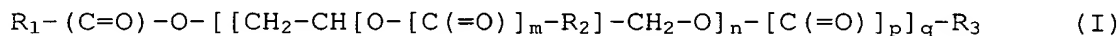
at least one emulsifying agent of water-in-oil (W/O) type and;

at least one emulsifying agent of oil-in-water (O/W) type ~~in the form of a self-invertible inverse latex comprising;~~  
and

from 20% to 70% by weight of a branched or crosslinked polyelectrolyte, wherein said polyelectrolyte is either a homopolymer based on a monomer having either a partially or completely salified strong acid functional group or a partially or completely salified weak acid functional group, or a copolymer based on at least one monomer having a strong acid functional group copolymerized either with at least one monomer having a weak acid functional group or with at least one neutral monomer, or a copolymer based on at least one monomer having a weak acid functional group copolymerized with at least one neutral monomer,

~~and characterized in that the constituent solvent of the oil phase is chosen from fatty acid esters.~~

2. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the constituent solvent of the oil phase is chosen from compounds formula (I):



wherein:

$R_1$  represents a saturated or unsaturated and linear or branched hydrocarbonaceous chain comprising from 7 to 30 carbon atoms,

$R_2$  represents, independently of  $R_1$ , a hydrogen atom or saturated or unsaturated and linear or branched hydrocarbonaceous chain comprising from 7 to 30 carbon atoms,

$R_3$  represents, independently of  $R_1$  or of  $R_2$ , a hydrogen atom or saturated or unsaturated and linear or branched hydrocarbonaceous chain comprising from 1 to 30 carbon atoms,

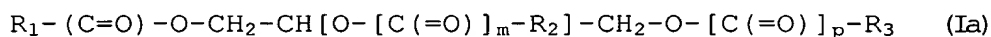
$m$ ,  $n$ ,  $p$  and  $q$  are, independently of one another, equal to 0 or to 1, it being understood that, when  $R_3$  represents a hydrogen atom,  $q$  is other than 0.

3. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 2, wherein for formula (I),  $R_1$ ,  $R_2$  and  $R_3$  represent, independently of one another, a radical chosen from the heptyl, octyl, nonyl, decyl, undecyl, dodecyl, tridecyl, tetradecyl, pentadecyl, hexadecyl, heptadecyl, octadecyl, nonadecyl, icosyl,

unicosyl, docosyl, heptadecenyl, icosenyl, unicosenyl, docosenyl or heptadecadienyl or decenyl radicals.

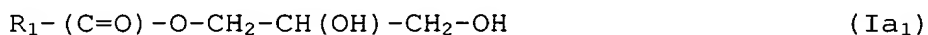
4. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 3, wherein for formula (I), the  $R_1-C(=O)-$  group represents one of the octanoyl (caprylyl), decanoyl, undecylenoyl, dodecanoyl (lauroyl), tetradecanoyl (myristyl), hexadecanoyl (palmitoyl), octadecanoyl (stearyl), icosanoyl (arachidoyl), docosanoyl (behenoyl), 8-octadecenoyl (oleyl), icosenoyl (gadoloyl), 13-docosenoyl (erucyl), 9,12-octadecadienoyl (linoleoyl) or 9,12,15-octa-decatrienoyl (linolenoyl) radicals.

5. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 2, wherein the constituent solvent of the oil phase of the inverse latex is a compound of formula (Ia):



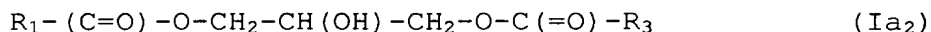
corresponding to the formula (I) in which q and n are equal to 1, or a mixture of compounds of formulae (Ia).

6. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 5, wherein the constituent solvent of the oil phase of the inverse latex is a compound of formula (Ia<sub>1</sub>):



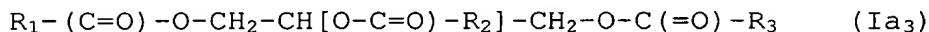
corresponding to the formula (Ia) in which m and p are equal to 0 and R<sub>2</sub> and R<sub>3</sub> represent a hydrogen atom.

7. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 5, wherein the constituent solvent of the oil phase of the inverse latex is a compound of formula (Ia<sub>2</sub>):



corresponding to the formula (Ia) in which p is equal 1, m is equal to 0 and R<sub>2</sub> represents a hydrogen atom.

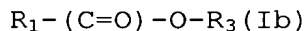
8. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 5, wherein the constituent solvent of the oil phase of the inverse latex is a compound of formula (Ia<sub>3</sub>):



corresponding to the formula (Ia) in which m and p are equal to 1.

9. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 5, wherein the constituent solvent of the oil phase of the inverse latex is a mixture of compounds of formulae (Ia<sub>1</sub>), (Ia<sub>2</sub>) and/or (Ia<sub>3</sub>).

10. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 2, wherein the constituent solvent of the oil phase of the inverse latex is a compound of formula (Ib):



corresponding to the formula (I) in which q is equal to 0, or a mixture of compounds of formulae (Ib).

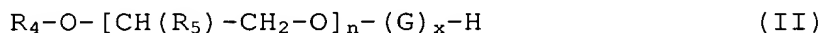
11. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 10, wherein the constituent solvent of the oil phase of the inverse latex is octyl palmitate.

12. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 5, wherein the constituent solvent of the oil phase of the inverse latex is a mixture of at least one compound of formula (Ib) and of at least one compound of formulae (Ia).

13. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the emulsifying agent or agents of the water-in-oil type are chosen from sorbitan monooleate, sorbitan isostearate or sorbitan oleate ethoxylated with 5 mol of ethylene oxide.

14. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the emulsifying agent or agents of the water-in-oil type are chosen from sorbitan oleate ethoxylated with 20 mol of ethylene oxide, ethoxylated castor oil comprising 40 mol of ethylene oxide, ethoxylated sorbitan laurate comprising 20 mol of ethylene oxide, or ethoxylated lauryl alcohol comprising 7 mol of ethylene oxide.

15. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the emulsifying agent or agents of the oil-in-water type are chosen from the compounds of formula (II):



wherein  $R_4$  represents a saturated or unsaturated and linear or branched hydrocarbonaceous radical comprising from 1 to 30 carbon atoms,  $R_5$  represents a hydrogen atom or an alkyl radical comprising 1 or 2 carbon atoms,  $G$  represents the residue

of a saccharide, x represents a decimal number between 1 and 5 and n is equal either to zero or to an integer 9.

16. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 15, wherein for formula (II), x is between 1 and 3.

17. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 15, wherein for formula (II), G represents the glucose residue or the xylose residue and n is equal to 0.

18. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 15, wherein for formula (II), R<sub>4</sub> represents an octyl, decyl, undecyl, dodecyl, tetradecyl or hexadecyl radical.

19. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the strong acid functional group of the monomer is a sulphonic acid functional group or a phosphonic acid functional group, partially or completely salified, and the monomer is 2-methyl-2-[(1-oxo-2-propenyl)amino]-1-propanesulphonic acid, partially or completely salified in the form of an alkali metal salt.

20. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the weak acid functional group of the monomer comprising it is a carboxylic acid functional group and the monomer is selected from the group consisting of acrylic acid, methacrylic acid, itaconic acid or maleic acid.

21. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the neutral monomer is chosen from 2-hydroxyethyl acrylate, 2,3-dihydroxypropyl acrylate, 2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate,

2,3-dihydroxypropyl methacrylate or an ethoxylated derivative with a molecular weight of between 400 and 1 000 of each of these esters.

22. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the polyelectrolyte is a homopolymer of acrylic acid partially or completely salified in the form of the sodium salt or of the ammonium salt.

23. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the polyelectrolyte is a copolymer of partially or completely salified 2-methyl-2-[(1-oxo-2-propenyl)amino]-1-propanesulphonic acid (a) and of 2-hydroxyethyl acrylate (b) in an (a)/(b) molar ratio of between 30/70 and 90/10.

24. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 23, wherein the polyelectrolyte is a copolymer of sodium salt or of the ammonium salt of 2-methyl-2-[(1-oxo-2-propenyl)amino]-1-propanesulphonic acid ( $a_1$ ) and of 10% to 40% of 2-hydroxyethyl acrylate (b) in an ( $a_1$ )/(b) molar ratio of between 60/40 and 90/10.

25. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the polyelectrolyte is a copolymer of the sodium salt, of the ammonium salt, of the monoethanolamine salt or of the lysine salt of 2-methyl-2-[(1-oxo-2-propenyl)amino]-1-propane-sulphonic acid ( $a_1$ ) and of acrylic acid partially or completely salified in the form of the sodium salt, of the ammonium salt, of the monoethanolamine salt or of the lysine salt ( $c_1$ ) in an ( $a_1$ )/( $c_1$ ) molar ratio of between 30/70 and 90/10.

26. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the polyelectrolyte is a copolymer of the sodium salt or of the ammonium salt of 2-methyl-2-[(1-oxo-2-propenyl)amino]-1-propanesulphonic acid ( $a_2$ ) and of acrylamide (d) in an ( $a_2$ )/(d) molar ratio of between 50/50 and 30/70.

27. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the polyelectrolyte is crosslinked and/or branched with a diethylenic or polyethylenic compound in the molar proportion, expressed with respect to the monomers employed, of 0.005% to 1%.

28. (withdrawn) The composition as defined in Claim 27, wherein the crosslinking agent and/or branching agent is chosen from diallyloxyacetic acid or one of its salts, such as sodium diallyloxyacetate, ethylene glycol dimethacrylate, ethylene glycol diacrylate, diallylurea, trimethylolpropane triacrylate, methylenebis(acrylamide), triallylamine or a mixture of these compounds.

29. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 1, comprising from 4% to 10% by weight of emulsifying agents.

30. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 29, wherein from 20% to 50% of the total weight of the emulsifiers are water-in-oil emulsifiers and 80% to 50% of the total emulsifiers are oil-in-water emulsifiers.



31. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 1, wherein the oil phase represents from 15% to 40% of the weight of the said composition.

32. (previously presented) The composition as defined in Claim 1, further comprising one or more additives chosen from complexing agents, transfer agents or chain-limiting agents.

33. (withdrawn) The cosmetic, dermocosmetic, dermopharmaceutical or pharmaceutical composition, comprising from 0.1% to 10% by weight of the composition as defined in Claim 1.

34. (withdrawn) The cosmetic, dermocosmetic, dermopharmaceutical or pharmaceutical composition as defined in Claim 33, in the form of a milk, of a lotion, of a gel, of a cream, of a soap, of a foam bath, of a balm, of shampoo or of a conditioner.

35. (withdrawn) A method for preparing a cosmetic, dermocosmetic, dermopharmaceutical or pharmaceutical composition, comprising adding the composition according to claim 1 to said cosmetic, dermocosmetic, dermopharmaceutical or pharmaceutical composition.